The People's Korea

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President Kim Il Sung, Secretary Kim Jong Il Awarded Honorary Diploma, Medal

President Kim Il Sung was presented with an honorary diploma and a gift by the Casagiove City Council of Caserta Commune of Italy on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

Meanwhile, Secretary Kim Jong Il was awarded a commemoration medal of Casagiove City. The Casagiove Council on Mar. 17 decided to present a medal to the Secretary on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

The mayor of Casagiove on Mar. 18 conveyed them to Vice Minister of External Economic Affairs Kim Jong U who is heading the DPRK economic delegation on a visit to Italy.

Pyongyang Waiting for Green Light from Seoul

The north Korean secretary of the preparatory committee for a north-south joint conference said on Mar. 29 that Pyongyang would leave the setting of a date for the meeting to Seoul.

The secretary issued a press statement to this effect after Pyongyang's second proposal to hold a joint conference on Mar. 28 at Panmunjom failed to take place.

In the statement the secretary said he hoped the south Korean authorities along with political parties, public organizations and people from all walks of life would show a positive response at an early date to "this measure of ours."

It was also pointed out that if there was any truth in south Korean claims that any proposals by Pyongyang would be accepted if they contributed to reducing tension and the will of the people would be reflected in the settlement of the reunification issue, then there are no grounds for refusing to respond to the proposal to hold a joint conference.

"The approach to the north-south joint conference nowadays illustrates one's stand towards reconciliation and peace or confrontation and war," the statement said.

On a more positive note, according to a KCNA report on Mar. 30, which quoted "Voice of America," the chairman of south Korea's Social Democratic Party, Kwon Du Yong, voiced his agreement with the proposal to hold a preliminary meeting and urged the south Korean authorities to accept the proposal.

US to Stage Naval Exercises during Olympiad

The commander of the U.S Pacific Fleet on Mar. 28 in a Pentagon briefing confirmed previous reports that the United States would conduct naval exercises off the Korean Peninsula during this summer's Olympic Games.

Adm. David Jeremiah, who took command of the Pacific Fleet last October, said the aircraft carrier Midway and a battle group would maintain "a fairly continuous presence through the period."

Earlier in February, Pentagon sources disclosed that the U.S. will stage naval exercises during the Olympics in September, "to cope with the possible sabotage of the Games by the north".

In connection with this, Rodong Sinmun, organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on Mar. 31 in a signed commentary branded Jeremiah's announcement as "a military threat and blackmail and armed provocation moves against the DPRK."

Noting that the carrier Midway and many warships participating in the Team Spirit maneuvers being held in south Korea on an unprecedented scale plan to stay and stage renewed military exercises during the Olympiad, the paper said, "This reckless scheme is aimed to escalate and intensify the 'Team Spirit' maneuvers, a nuclear war test against the north, and provoke another war in Korea."

"Anyone can see that this is frantic nuclear war moves camouflaged with 'Olympic security'".

The WPK organ also said that Washington regards the Olympiad as "a mere lever for its reactionary strategies in Asia and the world."

"The United States is bringing dark clouds of a new war to the sky over Korea under the pretext of the Olympiad," the paper continued.

Seychellois President Declares Olympic Boycott

President France Albert Rene of the Republic of Seychelles on Mar. 15 declared that his country's determination not to participate in the "Seoul Olympiad" would never change, come what may.

He made this remark when he met Korean ambassador to Seychelles Chong Nam Ho.

He, expressed support of his country to the reunification of Korea.

Soviet Union, China Attack Team Spirit 88

The Soviet Union, China and many other countries have denounced the on-going U.S.-south Korea joint military exercise "Team Spirit 88." **(See detailed reports on page 4)**

The war game is billed as the largest military exercise in the "Western world."

The official Soviet news agency Tass on Mar. 26 said that the Americans and the south Koreans fabricated the KAL incident and fiction about "growing threat from the north" to speak ill of the DPRK.

Under those pretexts the south Korean authorities and their patrons across the ocean are trying to justify their arms buildup and the large-scale "Team Spirit 88" joint maneuvers, it said.

It is high time the United States and the south Korean authorities were realizing that the materialization of the DPRK's proposals would remove tensions from the Korean Peninsula, bring switchover from confrontation to a constructive dialogue and make an actual progress in solving the reunification question of the country, vital to the Korean people, said the news agency.

The Chinese People's Daily dated Mar. 29 carried an article lambasting the war game.

The paper noted that the exercises reminiscent of a real war including landing, river-crossing and airlifting operations are for a "three-dimensional war".

Drawing attention to the fact that the "Team Spirit" joint maneuvers have grown several times in recent years in the numerical strength and period as against what they were in the first years and the U.S. hand over the up-to-date military equipment to the south Korean army after the exercises, the paper said: Thus they are aggravating tension on the Korean Peninsula.

It is the unanimous desire of the entire Korean people to alleviate the tension and realise the independent and peaceful reunification on the Korean Peninsula. The United States and the south Korean authorities must cease from doing such action opposed to popular sentiments, the paper stressed.

Xinhua on Mar. 23 reported an article under the headline "Action Running against the Trend of the Time" condemning the military drill.

Noting that the U.S. and south Korea had committed a huge amount of military supplies and troops to the "Team Spirit 88," it said this runs counter to the will of the Korean people, not helpful to the relaxation of tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Pointing to the DPRK's proposal for the convocation of a north-south joint conference advanced early this year, it denounced the south side for continuing with the large-scale military exercises to disturb peace on the Korean Peninsula, rejecting the north's peace proposal and creating a tense situation under all pretexts.

In order to provide conditions for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, the United States should withdraw its troops from south Korea, it stressed.

Seoul Infiltrates Speed Boats into DPRK

The south Koreans on Mar. 25 infiltrated three speed boats into the DPRK territorial waters roughly seven miles southeast of Pupo-ri in Kangryong County, South Hwanghae Province, following a foreign merchant ship on its way to Haeju Port between 19:30 and 19:48.

This was disclosed in a message of Major General Li Tae Ho, senior member of the Korean side, to the American side of the Military Armistice Commission (MAC).

The message strongly denounced the infiltration of speed boats which "coincides with the criminal 'Team Spirit 88' joint military maneuvers" as a grave incident, a flagrant violation of paragraph 15 of the Armistice Agreement and a deliberate provocation to artificially increase the tensions.

"Out of our desire to avoid military conflict and confrontation on all accounts," the message noted, "we displayed maximum self-restraint and only gave a strong warning."

Major General Li warned, "If the enemy intrudes into our territorial waters again, our side will take resolute steps."

Earlier on Mar. 23, the Korean side lodged a strong protest with the U.S. side, delivering documents called "data of violations", at the 490th meeting of the secretaries of the MAC held at Panmunjom at the proposal of the Korean side.

According to the statement of Senior Colonel Kim Ryong Gi, secretary of the Korean side, the U.S. side has nowadays been handing over to the Korean side "data of violations" of the Armistice Agreement by the Korean side in the Demilitarized Zone, not mentioning precise time, spot or content.

He also said that the U.S. side has failed to promptly inform the Korean side of such "violations."

"How can one investigate incidents after receiving months-old 'data' which do not indicate the time of incidents or tell the accurate spots?" he asked.

He strongly demanded that the U.S. side give up at once such acts as fabricating incidents and groundlessly slandering the opposite side and strictly implement the Armistice Agreement.

He continued:

But the U.S. side attempted to justify its unreasonable act with allegations about "propaganda" and the like.

In view of the spirit of the Armistice Agreement and of the demand of the prevailing situation, our demand is entirely just.

The unreasonable stand and attitude of the U.S. side show that it regards the Armistice Agreement and points of agreement between the two sides as a sheet of waste paper.

Since the U.S. side rigged up fictitious "cases of violations" out of a base political purpose and delivered data mentioning no date, place or content of the incidents, we cannot accept the "data of violations" by our side in December and give them back to the U.S. side.

The defective "data" of 39,287 cases of "incidents" for September,

(Continued on page 8)

Humming Korean People Busy with

The DPRK is now active in peaceful construction to carry out the third Seven-Year Plan (1987-93) announced at the Second Session of the Eighth DPRK Supreme People's Assembly held in Pyongyang in April 1987.

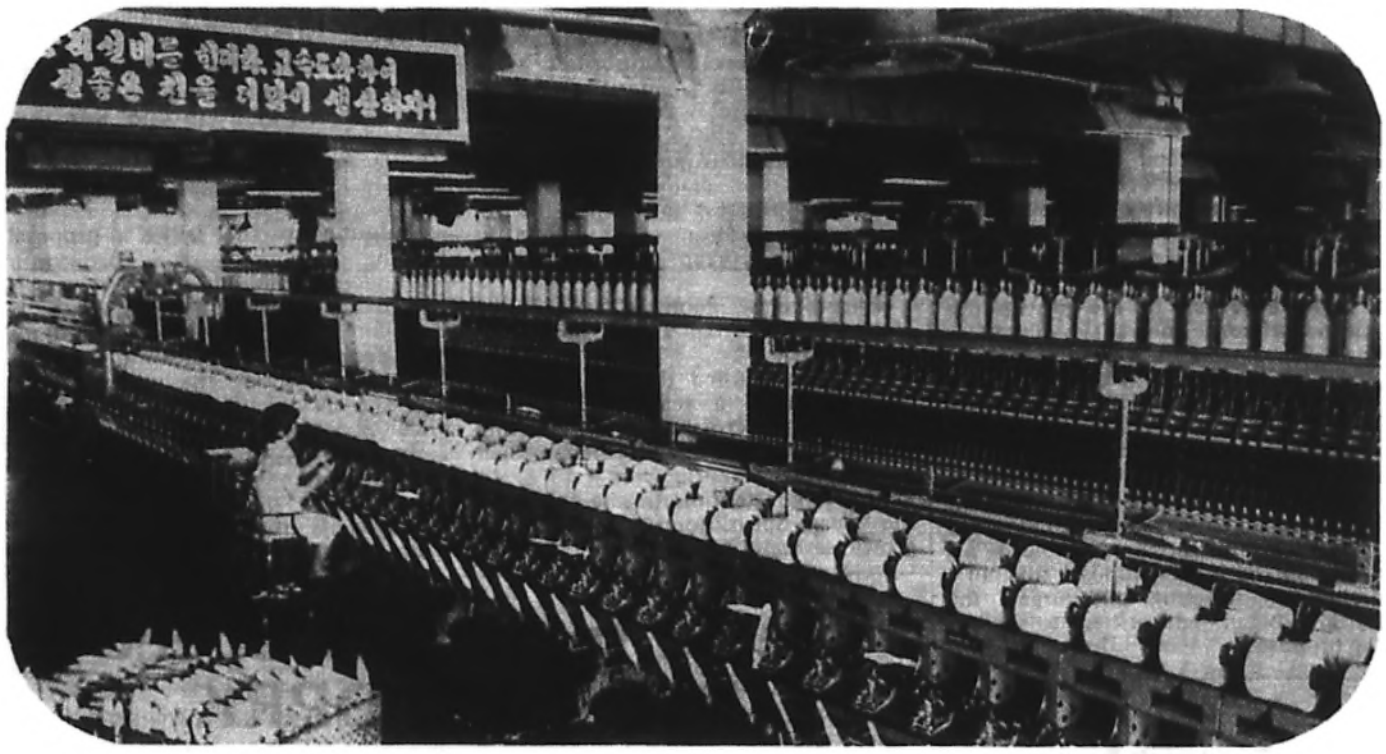
Especially, the year 1988 is a year which marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

Under the energetic guidance of Secretary Kim Jong Il the entire Korean people have been all rising up in the 200-day campaign to register big successes by the 40th birthday of the DPRK (Sep. 9), in hearty response to the calls of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. The calls were discussed at a meeting of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee held on Feb. 20.

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, the Chollima Steel Complex and other iron and steel works throughout the country are now boosting the production of steel 1.3 times and rolled steel 1.8 times over those before the campaign.

Builders of the Sunchon Vinalon Complex are increasing the speed of construction as a whole 1.7 times as against the previous month through a dynamic drive to create a "Sunchon Vinalon Speed."

◀ The Korean People's Army soldiers help the construction work of the Sunchon Vinalon Complex.



A worker of the Pyongyang Textile Combine producing high-quality yarn.

A partial view of the construction site of Kwangbok Street

Socialist Economic Construction

Meanwhile, builders of the Kwangbok Street are overfulfilling their daily plan for concrete placing by 42 percent, prefabrication assembly by 5 percent, wall assembly 20 percent, steel structure project by 129 percent and construction of dwelling houses by 2 percent in the 200-day campaign.

The campaign is also in full swing at the first stage construction project of the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Complex, the second stage expansion project of the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex and construction sites of the power stations with a generating capacity of more than 1.2 million kva within the first half of the year.

In the campaign the Musan Mining Complex is daily fulfilling its ore concentrated production plan at over 120 percent.

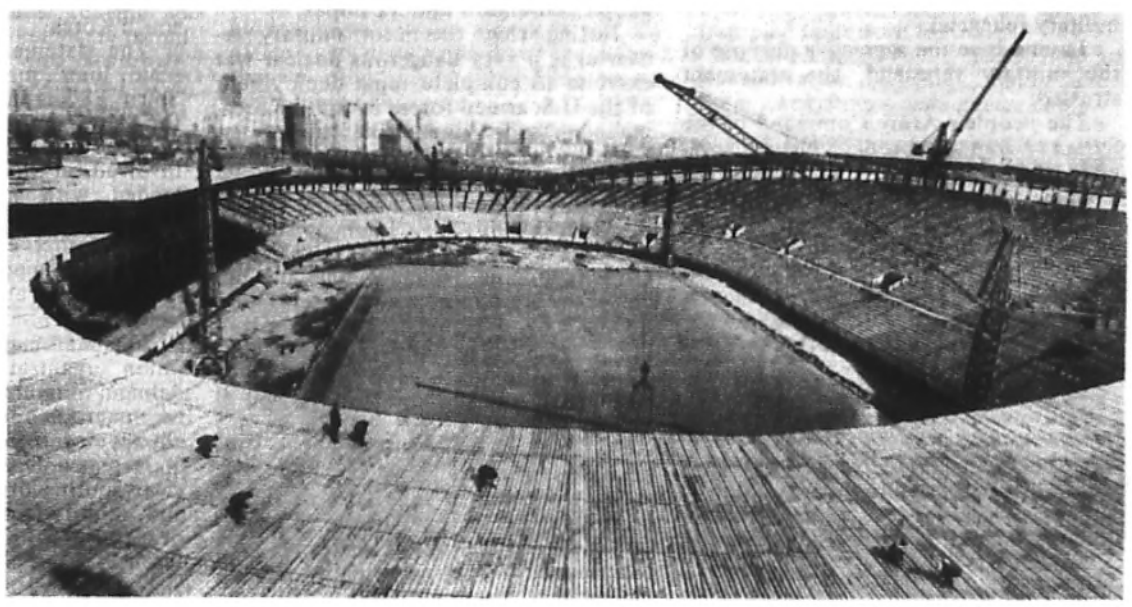
The Anju District Coal Mining Complex is now carrying out its daily plan for preparatory tunnelling at 104 percent and coal production at 101 percent.

Coal mines in Sunchon, Chonnae, northern and other districts are daily producing 20,000 tons of coal more than before the campaign.

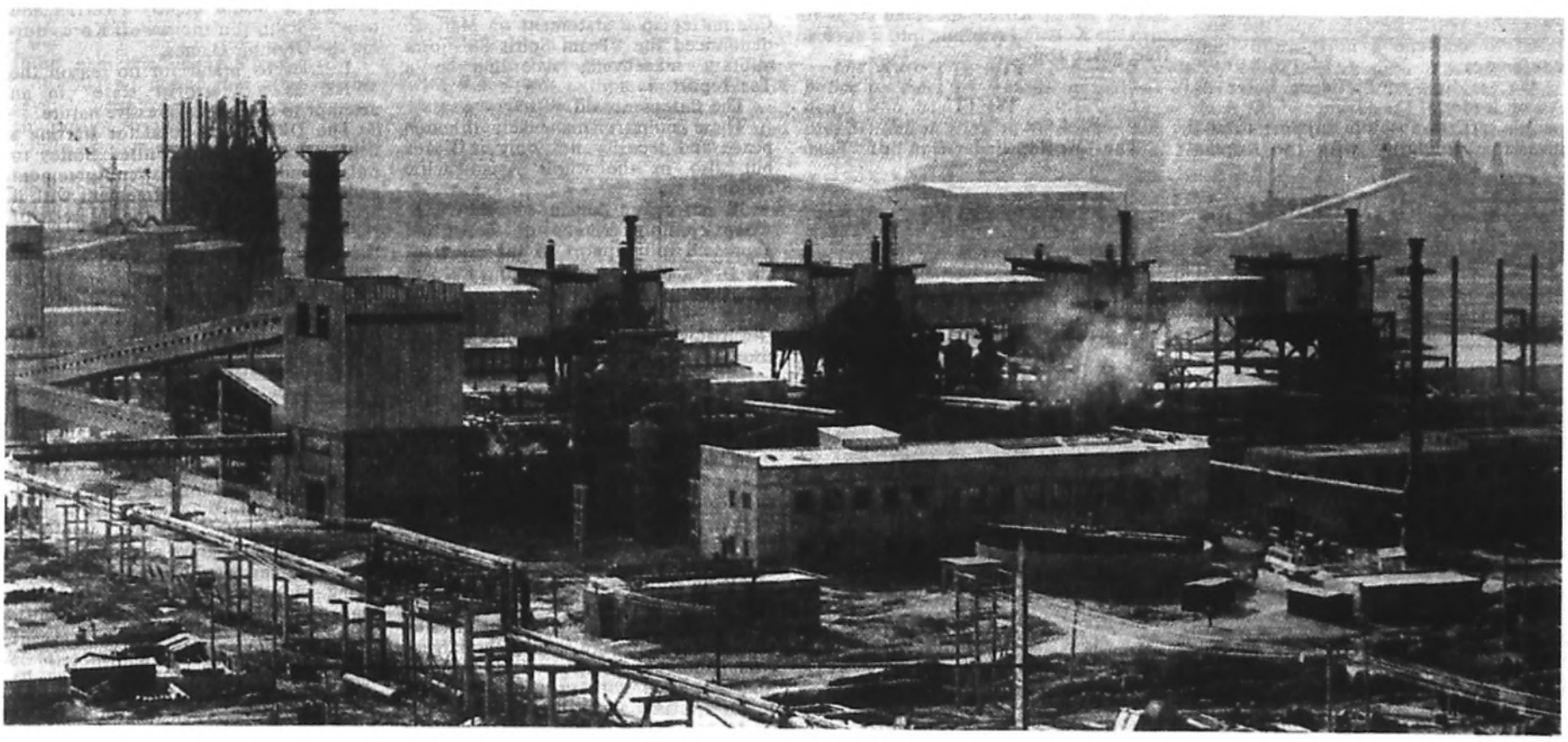
The following photos will show the readers fresh successes being made in peaceful economic construction by the Korean working people:

▶ The Pyongyang International House of Culture has made its appearance in Yonggwang Street, the center of Pyongyang.

▼ The Taean General Heavy Machine Works



The construction work of the Yanggakdo Stadium in Pyongyang proceeds rapidly.



A part of the construction site in the carbide district of the Sunchon Vinalon Complex.

Criticisms of "Team Spirit 88" Sweep The World

The "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises are now being staged by the United States and south Korea in the southern part of Korea in defiance of Pyongyang's call for refraining from major military exercises on the peninsula.

The highly provocative exercises are now under fire across the five continents where people condemn the war game as leading the situation in Korea to a brink of war.

Here is a round-up of the world's voices in denunciation of the war game based on reports by the Korean Central News Agency:

U.S. Marines and their south Korean counterparts conduct an amphibious landing exercise off east coast near Pohang on Mar. 25 in a simulated attack on a shore of the DPRK. Some 200,000 troops are taking part in the joint exercise, which is billed as the largest combined war game in the West. (Reuter)

Guinean President

President Lansana Conte of the Republic of Guinea met DPRK ambassador to his country Kim Jin Gi on Feb. 27 and denounced the "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal of the U.S. and south Korea.

He expressed satisfaction with the good friendly relations between Guinea and Korea and extended full support to the Korean people in the struggle for the peace and reunification of the country.

Syrian People's Army Command

The People's Army Command of the Syrian Arab Republic made public a statement on Mar. 5 denouncing the U.S. and the Roh regime for staging the provocative "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal.

Laying bare the aggressive purpose of the military rehearsal, the statement stressed:

The People's Army Command of the Syrian Arab Republic bitterly denounces the "Team Spirit 88" military rehearsal of the United States and south Korea as a deliberate criminal act of blocking the peace of Korea and its reunification, as an insolent demonstration of "strength" to the Korean people and as an intolerable challenge to the cause of peace in Asia and other parts of the world.

The United States and south Korean authorities must stop the aggressive "Team Spirit 88" war exercises at once. And the U.S. imperialists must discontinue all sorts of military threat and get out of south Korea without delay, taking along their troops and lethal equipment.

The United States and south Korean authorities must show their sincerity to solve the Korean question and give active response to all the DPRK's peace initiatives including the proposal for multilateral disarmament talks, the proposal for tripartite talks and the proposal to convene a north-south joint conference.

We, soldiers of President Hafez Al Assad, leader of the advance of the Arab people, affirm absolute support to and invariable solidarity with the Korean people in their just struggle for national reunification.

Attendants of WPC Meeting

A joint statement denouncing the "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises was published by about 50 delegates from international organizations and different countries participating in the Meeting of the Presidential Committee of the World Peace Council held over March 19-22 in Prague, including vice presidents of the World Peace Council – former Portuguese President Francisco Da Costa Gomes, labour member of the British Parliament and President of the British Peace Council James Lamond, member of the Supreme Council of Revolution of Madagascar Richard Andrimanjato and President of the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty among the Peoples Orlando Fundora Lopez.

Noting that the joint military rehearsal is a very dangerous nuclear war exercise to complete rapid deployment of the U.S. armed forces in south Korea, make a forestalling strike against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and furthermore, invade other Asian countries, the statement said:

We condemn the "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises as an open challenge to the Korean people and the world peace-loving people who are making effort to achieve national reconciliation and unity and promote peace and peaceful reunification on the Korean Peninsula, and as a criminal move threatening peace and security in this area, and strongly demand its immediate stop.

We think that it fully accords to the desire and demand of the world peace-loving people as well as the Korean people to ease the tension on the Korean Peninsula at present and turn this area into a nuclear free, peace zone.

We hold that the United States and the south Korean authorities must pull the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons out of south Korea and take steps to turn the Korean Peninsula into a nuclear free, peace zone.

WFTU

The World Federation of Trade Unions published a statement on Mar. 12 denouncing the "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal of the U.S. and south Korea.

The statement noted that the large-scale joint military rehearsal "Team Spirit 88" is increasing the tension on the Korean Peninsula.

The fact that the warships and planes involved in the military rehearsal are loaded with nuclear weapons causes particular uneasiness and apprehension. This conflicts with the demand of the Korean people for conversion of the Korean Peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.

The statement called on the trade union organizations of all countries to demand an end to the provocative military exercise and the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from south Korea.

It concluded that it is important to clear south Korea of the foreign forces and reunify Korea independently and peacefully without any foreign interference.

Tanks and Armoured Personnel Carriers (APC) of the 2nd U.S. Infantry Division cross a ribbon bridge during a daybreak river crossing operation near Yoju on Apr. 8, 1987, as part of the "Team Spirit 87" war game in which some 200,000 U.S. and south Korean soldiers took part. (Reuter)

Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee

The Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee in a statement on Mar. 25 denounced the "Team Spirit 88" joint military maneuvers, according to a Tass report.

The statement said:

These military maneuvers threaten peace and security not only in Korea but also in the whole Asian-Pacific region.

It strongly demanded the U.S. troops' pullout from south Korea and expressed full support to the effort of the DPRK to reunify the country peacefully on a democratic basis without foreign interference through a constructive dialogue between the north and the south.

Yugoslav League for Peace, Independence and Equality of Peoples

A letter of solidarity came to the Korean National Peace Committee from the Presidency of the Yugoslav League for Peace, Independence and Equality of Peoples in denunciation of the criminal "Team Spirit 88".

The letter said that the United States and south Korea are staging the largest war exercises in the world for the longest period with use and threat of force at a time when the DPRK proposed to convene a north-south joint conference to discuss questions concerning the peaceful reunification of the country and are committing an open provocation by worsening the situation on the Korean Peninsula.

Communist Party of United States of America

A solidarity message recently came to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States of America condemning the "Team Spirit 88" joint military maneuvers.

Noting that the DPRK which struggles to guarantee peace has become an important force in safeguarding security of Asia and the Pacific and of the world, the message says:

For this the DPRK has become an object of an outrageous and sinister campaign by Washington.

The United States has conducted annually aggressive "Team Spirit" maneuvers with the forces of the south Korean military dictatorship under its command. The "Team Spirit 88" is under way on a scale larger than last year and more means of fire power and nuclear strike forces are mobilized.

The Reagan administration announced that it would deploy a carrier and other warships in the sea off Korea during the Olympic Games.

It tries to brand for no reason the DPRK as a "terrorist state" in an attempt to cover its aggressive nature.

The DPRK's proposal for starting a negotiation with the United States to put an end to the Armistice Agreement and conclude a peace agreement with it accords with peace and the interests of the American people. The withdrawal of the U.S. troops and its military bases including nuclear weapons from south Korea would meet the greatest interest of the American people and contribute to the security and peace in the world, the message stresses.

IUS

The Secretariat of the International Union of Students Mar. 3 made public a statement denouncing the "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal as a gross violation of the Korean Armistice Agreement and a grave challenge to the entire Korean people and the peace-loving people of the world who want peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification.

The statement says:

Such military action is aiming to complete preparedness for a nuclear war in the Far East, hasten the frame up of triangular military alliance between the United States, Japan and south Korea,

(Continued on page 5)

Kuro City Office Struggle: "Second Kwangju"

—Testimonies of Witnesses—

(Continued from the Mar. 19 issue of the PK)

About 4,500 riot police and a goon squad on Dec. 16 mercilessly cracked down upon about 4,000 citizens and students who staged a 45-hour siege of the Kuro city office in protest against the illegal presidential campaign.

The French newspaper Le Monde on Dec. 19 said that 40 to 50 people had been killed in the vicious crackdown.

The prestigious French newspaper said that Roh Tae Woo was elected Chun Doo Hwan's successor as a show of the "first peaceful transfer of power" in the Dec. 19 election, but 18 hours after his election, his mandate was already tained with blood.

Here are excerpts from the "Kuro City Office Struggle" published by the National Coalition for Democracy on Dec. 27, 1987:

(Testimony of Mr. Kim Pil Su, 26, continues)

I moved at least five persons who had been directly hit on their heads by tear gas canisters, out of the students and citizens on the rooftop of the building.

Screams of persons falling flat on the floor were heard amid thick tear gas drifting inside the building where I could not distinguish anything even 30 centimeters away. (In this situation the rooftop was virtually a hell which reminded me of a war.)

Then, combat police and unidentified goons occupied the rooftop and beat the unresisting citizens and students to jellies at random and took about 120 people away. (I witnessed this scene at that time. It is estimated that 20-30 people died as they fell from the rooftop or as they were directly hit by tear gas bombs on their heads. More than 150 had gone up to the rooftop.)

At that time, combat police and a goon squad rushed onto the rooftop and fired tear gas and apple bomb canisters at us on the rooftop.

The distance from us to them was no more than 5-6 meters.

In this process, male and female students directly hit by bombs on their heads fell down on the floor.

Water was sprayed by fire engines and tear gas lingered there for about 30 minutes so that people were nearly suffocated due to thick tear gas in the air.

A citizen suddenly began to wave his underwear to express the will of surrender.

But he continued to fight for about an hour and a half after that, as a co-ed, who had suffered a direct hit and was virtually in a state of coma, said to him, "I don't care about dying. Please go on to fight."

When the people were driven to the hand-rails of the rooftop, goons closed in on them, wielding iron bars.

I have no doubt that at that time, several people, who had been continuously throwing roofing tiles at combat police on the ground from the hand-rails, fell down from the rooftop pushed by a number of citizens and students who rushed there to get what little fresh air there was.

On the morning of Dec. 18 a woman in her 30s who had fought a courageous struggle, while chanting "Let us fight hard!" and "Let us defend the city office to the last!", called for a continuous fight despite the barbarous attack by police.

She contacted the headquarters of the Party for Peace and Democracy by telephone and shouted through the telephone, "Citizens are dying. What on earth is the PPD doing? Come here in a hurry!"

However, I was unable to find her even after all of the strikers were rounded up and after those who had fought on the rooftop were separated from others.

Those arrested were set apart in the Kuro Police Station from the people who had been on the floors.

In this situation, however, those detained in police cells started a sit-in strike, singing songs and chanting slogans in high spirits.

Mr. Yun Du Byong and another man were taken away from the detention house to somewhere.

They were thrashed all over their bodies with iron bars and trampled underfoot by military boots at random so that their skin were torn and finally fell in coma.

(Testimony of Ms. Park Song Hui, 27)

They (combat police and goons) gathered us in a corner of the floor as if we were fallen leaves. Then, they trampled upon us, running on our bodies.

They threatened us, saying that anyone who raises a head would be killed...

At that time, the floor was filled with water two centimeters deep due to water sprayed by fire engines so that we were drenched to the skin as we were forced to put our heads in the water.

Someone got burnt in his leg as a tear gas canister directly hit his foot and his sneaker was totally burnt.

I could not see the scene clearly as tear gas bombs, wooden bars and others flew over our heads.

After combat police and goons lined up the Kuro strikers, they poked women hard with sticks and insulted them, saying, "You, slut, step out! Look at that hussy with thick legs."

Those at the end of the row were continuously struck down and those wearing bright clothes had the letters written on their backs, reading "I am damn Kim Dae Jung who makes a fuss at a ballot-counting office."

Then, they thrashed them and shouted, "These brats are radical demonstrators and write slogans even on their backs. I can't be satisfied even if you are killed."

Though I could not look at the scene because we were forced to drop our heads, "Bang!" "Bang!" – the sounds of their heads being thrashed with iron bars – were clearly heard.

When a co-ed cried, "Mam!", they beat her more than 10 times, and said "Cry more!".

I was told at the police station where I was detained that a woman who had hidden herself under a desk in the city office was discovered by a goon and that he intentionally rubbed her breasts while taking her away.

When the woman resisted, he said "Do you say you are still a woman?", according to a witness.

Combat police even said at the auditorium of the office, "These hussies will come here again (to join in a sit-in) unless they are sexually harassed."

"Bang! Bang! Bang!" Sound of tear gas exploding, screams and that of weeping were heard here and there so that all of us thought "We are going to be killed soon."

The circumstances were such that we were like mice which were looking for a hole, unable to find it and were bitten by a cat.

I felt ashamed of the fact that I was still a human being.

I felt like an animal.

I was so struck with horror.

I thought that if I was taken away from there I would definitely be killed.

The situation was so terrible that even gentlemen and ladies were crying hard, "What shall we do? We will be killed," "I know how Kwangju citizens were killed. We will be killed like them."

I felt ashamed as a human whenever I was beaten by them.

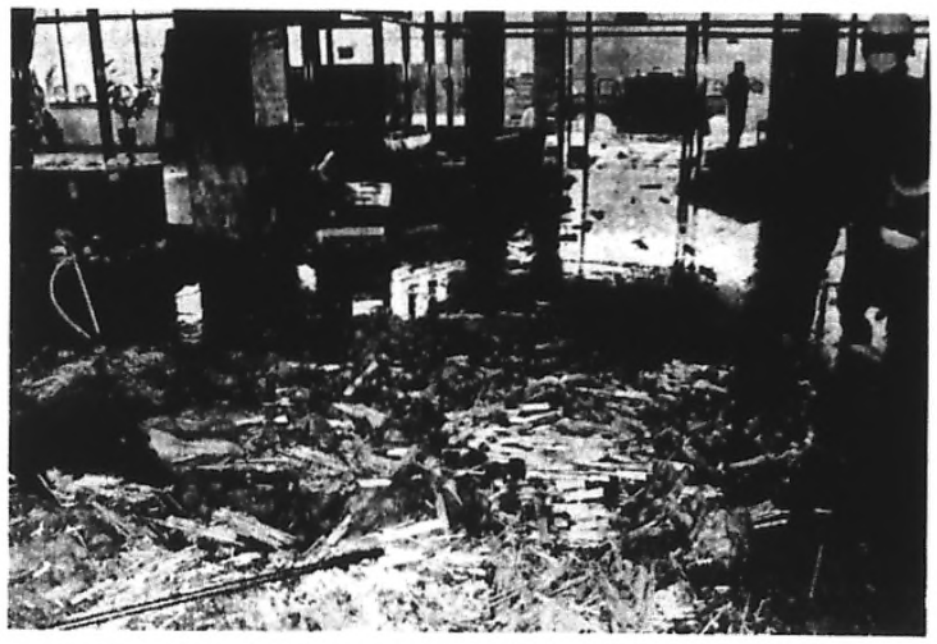
I felt it's much better to jump down from the building.

It was noteworthy that the goons spoke with the accent of Kyongsang Province.

If we replied that we were from Cholla Province when we were asked where we were from, the goons thrashed us with wooden sticks at random, saying, "Guys of Cholla Province should be killed."

A man said that he was made to lie on the floor with his mouth covered with a big dustcloth and had his body trampled underfoot all over.

Most citizens were merchants and transportation workers, and among them were many uneducated people.



The Kuro city office became a scene of bloodshed as some 4,500 combat police on Dec. 18 mercilessly cracked down upon about 4,000 citizens and students who had staged a sit-in strike in the office in protest against the illegal presidential election in December last year. Some 40-50 people are said to have been killed in the crackdown. (Hankook Ilbo, Dec. 19)

(Continued from page 4)

the backbone of a new military alliance in Asia and Pacific area, and block the growing struggle of the south Korean people and students for freedom, democracy and reunification.

In the name of the affiliated progressive students, the IUS Secretariat reaffirms full support to the constructive proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and urges the United States and south Korean authorities to stop the military exercises and withdraw the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from south Korea.

The IUS Secretariat calls upon students organizations of all member states, friendly student organizations, and national, regional and international non-governmental organizations to take necessary actions to put pressure upon the U.S. and south Korean authorities to discontinue their confrontation and war manoeuvres and accede to dialogue with the DPRK.

Pol. Bureau Member of MVR

The United States and south Korea should discontinue at once the criminal "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal threatening peace and security in the world, said Rabezandrina Raveloarimefy, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Malagasy Vanguard of Revolution and the technical advisor to the Prime Minister's Office, in a press statement.

Saying the "Team Spirit" joint military rehearsal is a part of the provocative military operation leading the situation on the Korean Peninsula to the brink of war, the statement said: The United States is scheming to back its stooges and threaten the democratic forces struggling against the prolongation of the military dictatorship by staging this military rehearsal.

The rehearsal opposing the DPRK is an open challenge to the Korean people who are desirous of peace and peaceful reunification of the country and a criminal act going against the desire of mankind who love peace.

Noting that today the Korean Peninsula is in a grave situation which may lead to the outbreak of a war at any moment, it said that if a war breaks out in Korea, it will easily spread into a global thermonuclear war which will impose big calamities upon the Korean people and mankind.

Int'l Liaison Com. for Korea's Reunification

The International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea in its bulletin No. 2 of February demands the U.S. and south Korea stop their "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises.

The bulletin editorially denounces their "Team Spirit 88" extremely deteriorating the situation on the Korean Peninsula as a challenge to the Pyongyang proposal to convene a north-south joint conference for discussing and solving urgent matters concerning reunification.

The editorial goes on: The "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal, which is being staged on the Korean Peninsula where a tense situation has been created owing to the anti-DPRK smear campaign launched by the south Korean dictatorial "regime" at the instigation of the United States and Japan, is the root cause of a global nuclear war.

For world peace, the root cause of a war should be decisively removed from the Korean Peninsula where the most tense situation is prevailing. This is the requirement of the Korean people and world's people.

Italian Com. for Korea's Reunification

The Italian Committee for Korea's Reunification, in the January-February issue of its bulletin published on Feb. 22, expresses deep concern about the daily heightening tension on the Korean Peninsula and denounces the "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal.

The bulletin under the title "President Kim Il Sung Puts Forward the Proposal to Convene a North-South Joint Conference" carries a part

(Continued on page 8)

Open-Air Theatre Built in Burkina Faso with Aid of DPRK

A grand ceremony for the completion of an open-air theatre which has been built under the care of President Kim Il Sung was held in Boulkiemde Province, Burkina Faso, on Mar. 19.

Speaking at the ceremony, the governor of Boulkiemde Province said that an earlier completion of the building of the theatre with the sincere help of the Korean technicians made it possible to successfully arrange a national cultural week.

The theatre built under the care of President Kim Il Sung, a close friend of the Burkina Faso people, is a symbol of the development of the friendly relations between Korea and Burkina Faso, he stressed.

The minister of economic development, the national coordinator of the People's Organization, the secretary of state for culture, the governor of Boulkiemde Province and the DPRK ambassador to Burkina Faso planted trees in memory of the ceremony.

The attendants of the ceremony went round the theatre.

April Friendship Art Fest. To Be Participated by Many Foreign Guests

The Sixth "April Spring Friendship Art Festival" is to be held in Pyongyang this year.

The festival will be participated in by many art organizations from scores of countries of five continents in the world.

The festival will include the performance of a single art group and joint performances given by artists of various countries.

Music and dance performances will be given at the Pyongyang Grand Theatre, the Ponghwa Art Theatre, the February 8 House of Culture, the Pyongyang Theatre, the Moranbong Theatre and the Central Workers' House and acrobatic performances at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre and the People's Palace of Culture during the festival.

Theatres in Nampo, Sariwon, Hamhung, Wonsan and other local areas will also serve for the festival.

The "April Spring Friendship Art Festival" has been held in Pyongyang in April every year as a tradition since 1982 when the 70th birthday of President Kim Il Sung was celebrated.

The President has appreciated every year joint performances given by artists from different countries participating in the "April Spring Friendship Art Festival" and congratulated them on their successful performances.

This festival has made a great contribution to the strengthening and development of the friendship, solidarity, cultural exchange and relations among men of culture and art in the noble idea of independence, friendship and peace.

Large numbers of artists of the world have participated in the festival. The last five festivals were participated in by above 300 art organizations from more than 100 countries. Thousands of artists put on stage over 1,200 colorful items including songs, dances, instrumental music and acrobatics over scores of times.

The fifth festival was attended by more than 100 art organizations from 75 countries of the world.

Korean Nationals Here Demand End to "Team Spirit" War Game

Korean nationals in Tokyo Mar. 18 and 23 distributed handbills, demanding a stop to the "Team Spirit 88" war game and anti-DPRK and anti-Chongryun campaigns jointly conducted by the south Korean junta and the U.S. in 19 places in downtown Tokyo.

Citizens who received handbills encouraged Koreans distributing handbills, saying that they didn't want to be involved in a war, and that the military exercises should be stopped.

(Photo near Takadanobaba Station)

Many Literary, Art Books Published in Pyongyang

Many new literary and art books came off the press recently in Korea. They include the full-length novels "The Morning Sun," "Spring on the River Tuman" and "The Front" and the medium-length novels "The Road to the Home Village" and "An Ordinary Season" and a collection of poems "The Glow over Mt. Paekdu."

"The Morning Sun" is based on the record of the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea in initiating and guiding the construction of the large-scale long-distant belt conveyer line for removing the scraped earth of the Unryul Mine, an iron ore mine in the western area. It vividly depicts the wise leadership of the party in planning all work and pushing it forward at a lightning speed to realize the far-reaching plan of President Kim Il Sung for the construction of the country.

The stage of "Spring on the River Tuman" is set against the background of the 1930s. It portrays young people who rose up in a sacred battle for national liberation.

"The Front" tells the massive heroism and unparalleled self-sacrificing spirit displayed by the people's army soldiers during the Fatherland Liberation War (June 25, 1950-July 27, 1953).

Hundreds of kinds of literary and art works of diverse themes including full-length and medium-length novels will be published in Korea this year. Their main themes will be the brilliant revolutionary history of President Kim Il Sung and his wise leadership and noble virtues and the noble traits of the people of our times who are working hard for the prosperity of the country with loaylty to the party and the leader, the reunification of the country, the cherished desire of the Korean people, etc.

The masterpieces will be the full-length novels "The Road for the Rising Generation, "Snow and Frost," "The Cholsan Peak" and "Ten Days and Ten Nights."

The medium-length novels "Native Land" and "Unha Island" and many other works expected will show feats performed by working people in the socialist consturction and in the efforts to carry out the tasks of the rural theses under the party's leadership.

The collection of memorial works "Nest" and other collections, the collection of poems "My Homeland" and epics, a collection of literary books and books of literary and art theories and music, film and art yearbooks will see the light on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Sep. 9, 1988).

Deep attention is paid to the publication of books needed for the cultural and emotional sentiments of pupils and children. "Real Intention of a Friend," "The Steel-like Heart," "Fragrance of the Flower Hangs again in the Art" and other collections of nursery tales, folklore tales and fables will take up a big share among them.

More than 200 kinds of children's books will be produced this year by the Kumsong Youth Publishing House alone.

Japanese Citizens Stage Street Campaign against Harassment of Korean Children Here

Japanese citizens distributed handbills demanding a stop to harassment of Korean children in Japan (Outside Machida Station, Tokyo).

About 20 Japanese citizens of Sagamihara City, Kanagawa Prefecture Mar. 20 distributed handbills outside Machida Station, demanding regulation of harassment of resident Korean children and the prevention of the recurrence of such acts.

The 20 citizens were housewives, students and businessmen.

On the day they spread a banner in front of Machida Station, reading "Let's Defend Children Wearing (Korean) Traditional Costume!"

Female students of the Korean junior and senior high schools in Japan wear traditional national costume as their school uniforms. Since the "KAL jetliner incident," cases of harassment of Korean children, in particular, female students who are easily identified because of their school uniforms, have increased.

These 20 citizens scattered handbills, appealing to passersby for a stop to violent acts against Korean children.

Since it was Sunday that they distributed handbills, many passersby such as housewives with children, female students, etc. stopped walking and received handbills. About 2,000 handbills they had prepared were immediately distributed.

These citizens decided to take action as violent acts against Korean children here increased after the "KAL jetliner incident."

Mr. Taruhana, a public official, who

(Continued on page 8)

New Students, Parents Have Their Say

—Entrance Ceremony Day at Korean School—

By Li Sung Hyon
Special to The People's Korea

The new academic year has just begun at Korean schools here in Japan and because of the rapid generational change this year saw a large number of fourth generation in addition to third generation pupils joining the schools.

There are now 152 schools promoted by the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) which provide a democratic national education from kindergarten to university.

The provision of a democratic national education, which has a 40-odd year history, is the only way of giving the children self-respect in a society which discriminates against them and of encouraging them to become good Koreans who are proud of their national heritage.

At the schools, students learn the Korean language, Korean history and geography along with other cultural activities such as Korean music and dance in order to cultivate their national pride and Korean spirit.

Every year children join the schools in hope that they will receive a high quality education which will enable them to become fine Koreans with a distinct national identity and a deep love for Korea.

Recent violent attacks on these young and impressionable children are a sad reflection on the society in which they have come to live.

Since the KAL jetliner incident last November, Korean students in Japan have been falling prey to violent attacks and verbal abuse by Japanese, many of whom have a deep prejudice of Koreans.

Since the south Korean authorities announced their questionable "results of investigation" on Jan. 15, Chongryun organizations and Korean schools and students have been frequently harassed in many parts of Japan.

Although Japanese prejudice towards Koreans has a centuries old history, the recent suspicion concerning Chongryun and the DPRK has been compounded by irresponsible and misleading reports by the Japanese mass media in regards to the KAL incident and its aftermath.

Furthermore, it must be pointed out that acts of violence by Japanese hooligans have been stimulated by the anti-DPRK and anti-Chongryun campaigns waged by the south Korean and Japanese governments in an attempt to impair the authority and debase the dignity of the DPRK.

Bearing the brunt of the recent wave of violence have been young female school pupils, easily identified because of their Korean school uniforms which consist of "chima" and "chogori," traditional Korean dress for females.

The full extent of Japanese prejudice towards Koreans became apparent last December when a nine-year-old girl was assaulted while traveling to school by train.

As a result of outrageous incidents like this, Korean residents have demanded that the Japanese government take effective measures to protect Koreans from harassment and investigate the truth behind the violent incidents as well as the backgrounds of criminals arrested in connection with these attacks.

It is to be commended that some socially aware Japanese joined with Koreans at meetings held to denounce the vicious attacks.

Though the level of violence directed at Koreans now appears to be decreasing, many of the perpetrators of the violence have not been arrested and the underlying problems still remain.

It is a great pity that this year entrance ceremonies at Korean schools were held under such strained and complicated circumstances as Korean children take a step forward towards what they hope is a bright future.

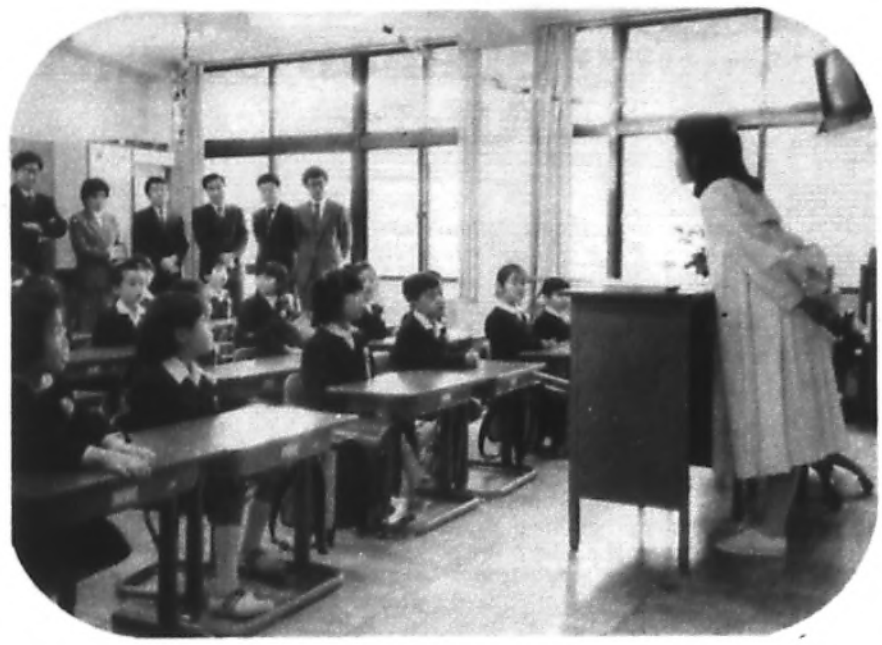
At the entrance ceremonies there were many joyful expressions on the faces of children and adults alike as they were filled with hope for the future.

In contrast with first and second generation Koreans the children of today tend to possess less national identity and pride because they have been socialized in Japan. Therefore, the Korean schools which have been protected and kept going by their parents and grandparents are important and essential to the development of these children and the maintenance of their cultural heritage.

This year at the Tokyo Korean 4th Elementary and Junior High School located in Adachi Ward, Tokyo 50 students joined the school and 56 moved on to the junior high level.

Adachi Ward is home to a great many of Tokyo's Korean residents and children from the school have been frequently assaulted this year.

Here are some comments from new and old students at the school and their parents who were interviewed after the ceremony and some pictures showing the students' innocent and perky figure.



New students listening intently to their new teacher. Standing at the back are the parents with their gaze fixed firmly on the children.

"I Send My Child to Korean School Because We Are Korean."

● A young mother of a new student at the elementary school when asked why she was sending her child to the school replied, "I send my child to Korean school because we are Korean."

Concerning the recent harassment of Korean students she said, "It is important that the students have firm faith and pride in themselves as Koreans," and went on to say calmly that Korean schools manage to do this well.

Her son, Cho Jong Gi, 7, stopped hiding behind his mother to say, "I want to make friends with all the new students and learn Korean."

As I listened to the shy little boy and recalled my own first day at Korean school I was confident that he would soon make friends and would no doubt become a proficient speaker of Korean.

● When asked what she wanted to do at junior high school Chang Tae Suk, 13, who has just entered the first year said she wanted to "learn about computors and become an expert."

Her mother, Song Ka Ja, who has brought up three children and has sent them all to the Korean school said "I can trust the Korean schools with my children, because I graduated from a Korean school myself and I know them well."

Commenting on the situation since the KAL incident she said, "I send my children to Korean school because the school educates them to be fine Koreans with a firm national consciousness, even though it takes nearly an hour from our house to the school and the children may fall prey to violence and verbal abuse by Japanese hooligans who use this incident as an excuse."

Her daughter, who had a spontaneous smile and sparkling eyes said, "In the future I want to enter Choson University. But I haven't decided what to become yet."

● Kim Song Gil, 13, who moved up to the junior high school level this April answered my questions with great enthusiasm.

"I have been playing the clarinet for three years since I joined the brass band in elementary school. So I will continue this club activity at junior high school. However, my dream is to become a chef specializing in French cuisine," he said as his classmates gathered round him.

He also said that his younger brother had entered elementary school this year and now all three of his brothers were studying at the same school. He said this made him very happy. Listening to the boy it was easy to imagine how kind he was to his brothers.

● Song Pyong Ja, a mother who sent her son to the Korean school this year said, "I could only send him to Korean school because I want him to be a fine Korean with confidence in himself and his national identity."

Looking around at the other new students she went on to say, "There is a kind of warmth in Korean schools, even among such little children. That's another reason why I send my children to this school though there is a Japanese school near our home. What I want is for the school to give our children an education which will help them to live in Japan, which is basically a foreign country."

Her son, Ko Tak Kyong, 7, a new elementary school student said he dreamed of becoming a football player and ran out to play with the other new pupils as if they were old friends.

New elementary school students entering the assembly hall of the school to the thunderous applause of their students.

First-year students who moved up to the junior high level standing up with enthusiasm as their names are called.

Rodong Sinmun on Int'l Affairs

Here are excerpts from recent commentaries in Rodong Sinmun, organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Cloud of War in Caribbean Sea

The United States is going to stage large-scale military exercises in the Caribbean from Apr. 1.

The military exercises assuming a very dangerous character will be participated in by numerous U.S. navy ships and planes and over 40,000 troops including commandos.

A spokesman for the U.S. Defense Department said the military maneuvers are designed to "demonstrate America's capability" for rapid deployment of forces to "defend its national interests" in Central America.

The U.S. imperialists are trying to keep and intensify their domination over Central America by destroying peace process there, strangulating the revolutions in Cuba and Nicaragua and stamping out the independence and sovereignty of the countries in this region.

It is noteworthy that the military maneuvers are timed to coincide with their undisguised machinations of aggression and interference in Nicaragua and Panama.

The Korean people vehemently denounce the U.S. imperialists for their criminal moves to harass peace in Central America.

The U.S. imperialists should take their hands of aggression and intervention off Central America at once. **(Mar. 30)**

Israel Should Withdraw from S. Lebanon

Israel must withdraw without delay from southern Lebanon and all other occupied Arab lands.

The Zionists have enforced a brutal terrorist rule since they occupied southern Lebanon by force of arms in March 1978.

The Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and aggressive brutalities are a crude encroachment upon the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon and a grave criminal act of jeopardizing peace and security in the Middle East.

Despite the unanimous demand of the Lebanese people and the world public, the Zionists are not withdrawing from southern Lebanon but rather arrogantly acting. This is because of the U.S. imperialists' zealous backing.

The situation in the Middle East is becoming more complicated and strained due to the aggression and intervention of U.S. imperialism and Israel.

If the Mideast problem is to be solved smoothly, the Israeli occupation of Arab territories should be ended and the U.S. imperialists should desist from backing Israeli aggression. At the same time, the legitimate national rights including the founding of an independent state of the Palestinian people should be restored.

The Korean people always fully support and encourage the Lebanese and other Arab people in their righteous struggle. **(Mar. 24)**

DPRK Hits Provocations by US, S. Korea

(Continued from page 1)

October and November last year is invalid because they cannot be regarded as cases of violations.

If the strained situation created on the Korean Peninsula today is to be eased, the U.S. side must strictly implement the Armistice Agreement and unconditionally and immediately discontinue its military provocations against our side in the Demilitarized Zone.

If the U.S. side continues such acts, discarding our demand, it will be held responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

US Infiltrates Spy Plane

The United States on Mar. 29 committed aerial espionage against the DPRK by infiltrating an SR-71 high-speed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane deep into the air above the territorial waters east of Kosong on the east coast of Korea from 13:07 to 13:11. The plane flew above the coastal waters of Tanchon City, South Hamgyong Province, the KCNA reported.

Such aerial espionage acts have numbered 12 since the Team Spirit 88 joint military exercises started, the report said.

Seoul Sends Battle Ship to DPRK West Coast

The south Koreans perpetrated a military provocation by infiltrating a battle ship into the territorial waters west of Changsangot on the west coast of the DPRK around 13:03 Mar. 29, the KCNA said on Mar. 30.

The report said when a naval patrol boat of the Korean People's Army on routine duty moved out, the ship hurriedly fled to the south.

"This military provocation is another premeditated act designed to aggravate the situation on the Korean Peninsula," the report said.

Japanese Call for End to Harassment Of Korean Kids in Japan

(Continued from page 6)

joined in the group to distribute handbills said: "The KAL jetliner incident has now been replaced by the 'Mayumi and Unhye incident.' In addition, cases of harassment of Korean children increased. I thought we should take action against this."

Ms. Hirabayashi, representative of the Committee to Defend the Human Rights of Foreigners Living in Japan, who made a banner and handbills, said:

"It is important to think the matter as a problem of Japanese, not as a problem of right-wing groups and hooligans. I thought it was important to stage a campaign as Japanese."

These 20 citizens said unanimously that Japanese prejudices against Koreans and national discrimination consciousness of Japanese underlined the violent acts against Korean children and students.

A man in his 40s who read the handbill said: "It is so bad to commit violent acts against Korean children. These cases show the national chauvinism of the Japanese."

A girl of a junior high school said, "It is bad to harass children."

Some passersby encouraged these people who were distributing handbills. A number of Korean children and students have been physically and verbally abused by Japanese hooligans since the "KAL jetliner incident."

Voices against these acts have been rising among Japanese people recently.

Team Spirit War Game Hit by World Public

(Continued from page 5)

dealing with the country's reunification in the New Year address of President Kim Il Sung.

Noting that although the ruler is replaced in south Korea under the backstage manipulation of the United States, no change will take place in the dictatorial system, the bulletin says in a commentary on the situation of the Korean Peninsula that Roh Tae Woo grabbed "power" through fraudulent elections widely known to the world.

It points out that the problem of the 24th Olympic Games has not yet been solved in accordance with the will of the world's peace-loving people desirous of the peace and peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula.

Mass Media

The Cuban paper **Granma** on Mar. 12, in an article under the headline "People's Korea against Imperialist Maneuvers," exposed the new war provocation moves of the U.S. and south Korea.

The paper said that, with the approach of the Olympic Games, phenomena at great variance with the sports function are taking place on the Korean Peninsula and antagonism between the north and the south is growing more and more.

Noting that the United States and south Korea are now staging "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises with the mobilization of more than 200,000 strong armed forces, it observes this is a patent proof of the fact that the United States is further aggravating the situation on the Korean Peninsula.

The Bulgarian paper **Otechestven Pront**, pointing out that the south Korean army is annually staging "Team Spirit" together with the U.S., said this was aimed at invading the DPRK which is engaged in peaceful construction.

The Bulgarian paper **Rabotnickesko Delo** condemned the "Team Spirit 88" joint military exercises, saying that the U.S. is scheming to reinforce armed forces of aggression on a large scale under the pretext of "security of Olympics".

The paper stressed that the United States should withdraw their nuclear weapons and troops from south Korea, not reinforcing armed forces.

The Lao paper **Vientiane Mai** laid bare the aggressive nature of "Team Spirit 88", noting that the military exercises of the U.S. and south Korea are reckless nuclear war provocation manoeuvres.

The Albanian paper **Bashkimi** accused the U.S. of openly increasing nuclear weapons and staging the war game in south Korea. Broad public circles condemned the ill-advised nuclear war provocation manoeuvres of the U.S., the paper said.

The Romanian paper **Scienteia Tineretului** said in a commentary that the "Team Spirit 88" is an action going against the desire of the Korean people for peace and reunification. This war game poses a grave threat to peace and security on the Korean Peninsula, it added.

The Afghan paper **Hakikat Enkulab Saur** said:

The military exercises are, in fact, nuclear manoeuvres against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The U.S. imperialists have annually staged "Team Spirit" since 1976 to round off their military alliance with south Korea and Japan.

Another paper of the country **Anis** said:

The joint manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppets are aimed at lighting the fuse of war and invading the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Malagasy paper **Imongo Vaovao** said:

The "Team Spirit 88" is part of the U.S. military strategy to realize its desire for world supremacy. The United States and the south Korean puppets must immediately stop the military exercises as unanimously desired by the Korean people and world people.

The Mongolian paper **Unen** in a commentary said "Team Spirit 88" patently proves that Washington and Seoul are unwilling to give up the policies of war and confrontation. The world demands that the United States and the south Korean ruling quarters give up the policies of confrontation and provocation against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and strive for consolidation of peace and security in Korea and the Asian-Pacific region, noted the commentary.

Another Mongolian paper **Novosti Mongolii** said "Team Spirit 88" shows that they are seeking tension and confrontation rather than peace.

The Mongolian Television said that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea put forward the proposal for stopping large-scale military exercises and reducing armed forces, unilaterally cut the numerical strength of her army by 100,000 men and sent them to peaceful construction but the United States and the south Korean authorities committed hostile acts against the DPRK.

The Finnish paper **Kansan Uutiset** criticized the U.S. staging the "Team Spirit 88" joint military rehearsal for planning to stage a large-scale naval military exercise in the sea off south Korea next fall under the cloak of the Olympics.

The Syrian papers **Tishurin and Al Saura** and Syrian radio and television and the U.S. newspaper **Workers World** published articles denouncing the war rehearsal.

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